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Art Talk Monday...on Tuesday (/news-blog/art-talk-monday-on-tuesday-4)

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The Best Christmas Pageant Ever **Opens December Fourth**

This week's Art Talk Monday is by Hilary Hileman of Ruston Community Theatre. Don't miss this production-- it's a wonderful way to kick off your holiday season! Call the Box Office at a (318)255-1450 to purchase your tickets. Ruston Community Theatre's next production is the popular holiday play ***The Best Christmas Pageant Ever***, written by Barbara Robinson. It is sponsored by The Lewis Family (of Lewis' Boutique), opens December 4th at The Dixie Center for the Arts and is being directed by Mitch Dufour.

The young Herdman clan, savvy connoisseurs of juvenile delinquency, show up at church for the first time after hearing that there is a free all-you-can-eat snack buffet. Grace and Bob Bradley are simultaneously attempting to produce the Christmas pageant after the director breaks her leg. In desperation, and despite protests from other church members, they cast the hardened hooligans in starring roles. As a result, the Herdmans reenact the traditional Christmas tale in a rather unconventional fashion.

Director Mitch Dufour says, "Once again, I've had the pleasure of being involved with the some of the most wonderful people in North Louisiana. It is always enchanting to watch a script come to life as actors, technicians, costumers, backstage workers and many others lend their talent to a production. The magic of this particular production has been especially sweet. Please come out and see this fun family show. You don't want to miss the best Christmas pageant ever!"

Ruston Community Theatre is posting individual videos from cast and crew members on Facebook. Be sure to check out our Facebook page at www.facebook/RustonCommunityTheatre (<http://www.facebook/RustonCommunityTheatre>).

The dates for *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* are **Thursday, December 4th through Saturday the 6th at 7:00 p.m. and a Sunday December 7th matinee at 2:00 p.m.** at The Dixie Center for the Arts in Ruston. Tickets at the door are \$12 for adults and \$6 for students/children.

Additionally,
Ruston
Community
Theatre and
The Lewis
Family are
proud to
sponsor two
sold-out
school
performances
of this play.
Visit RCT's
website at
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Ruston Community Theatre

&

The Lewis Family

present



~~The Worst~~ ^{Best} Christmas Pageant Ever By Barbara Robinson

December 4-7, 2014

Directed by Mitch Dufour



Dec. 4-6 at 7:00pm
Dec. 7 at 2:00pm

Location: The Dixie Center for the Arts
212 N. Vienna, Ruston LA 71270
318-255-1450

**Season Membership
or
General Admission**
Adults \$12
Student \$6

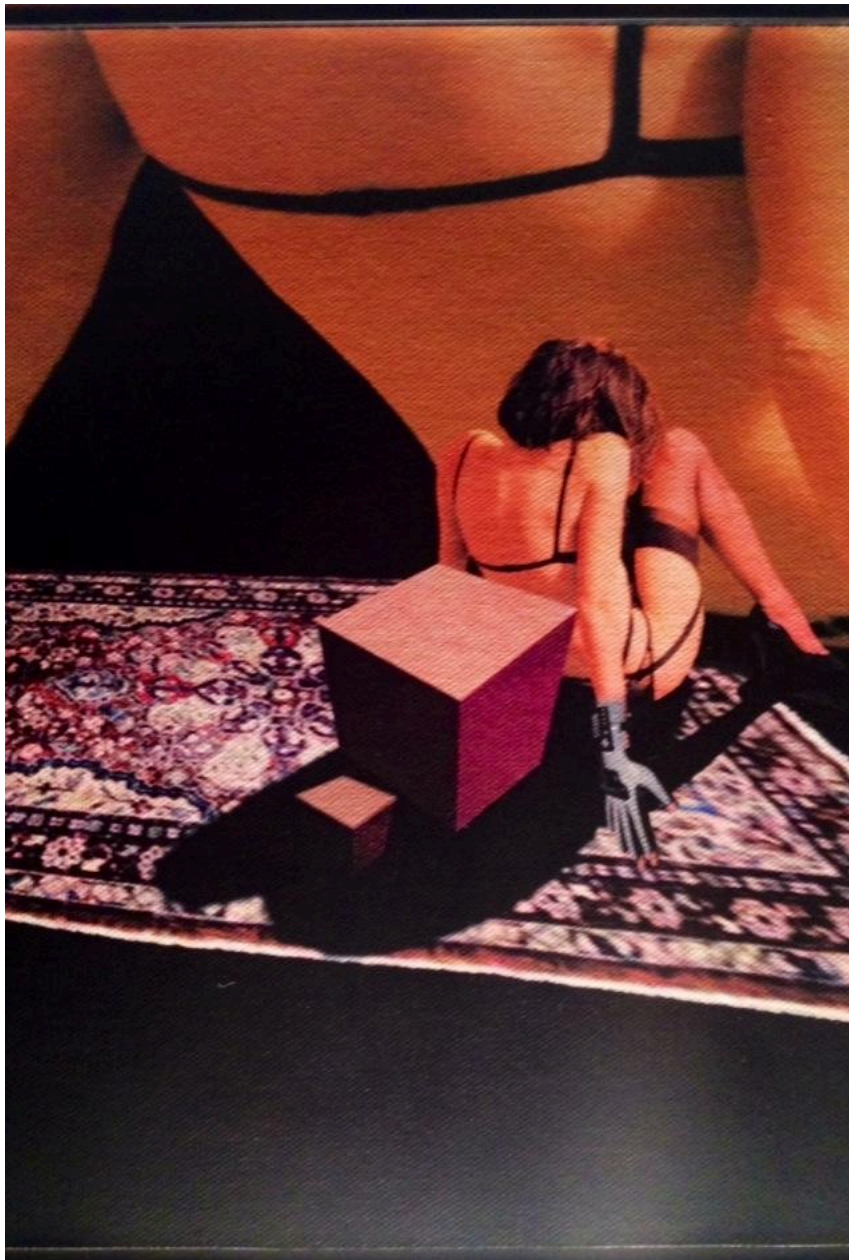
"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"
is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., New York City

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Monroe's Downtown Gallery Crawl, Dec. 4 ([/news-blog/monroes- downtown-gallery-crawl-dec-4](/news-blog/monroes-downtown-gallery-crawl-dec-4))

[NCLAC \(/news-blog?author=54aeb04fe4b061eb98d65592\)](/news-blog?author=54aeb04fe4b061eb98d65592) · [November 26, 2014 \(/news-
blog/monroes-downtown-gallery-crawl-dec-4\)](/news-blog/monroes-downtown-gallery-crawl-dec-4)

From our pal-in-art, Ann Bloxam Smith, with the Downtown Arts Alliance in Monroe/West
Monroe: **Downtown Gallery Crawl, Thursday, December 4, 2014: Holiday Art Party!**



The December 4th Downtown Gallery Crawl will be a free “art party” for all ages! As always, the first Thursday of December will afford all the opportunity to see wonderful art while enjoying party foods and listening to festive music at eleven galleries in downtown Monroe and West Monroe.

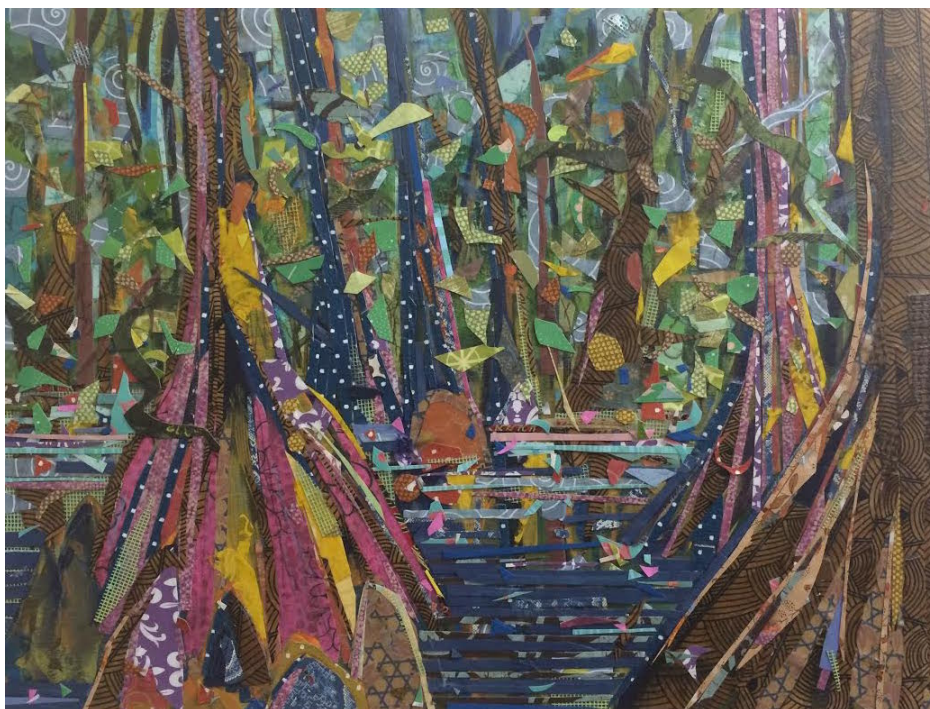
Original art will be for sale, too, with no sales taxes charged because the galleries are in an official cultural district. *All are invited to the party, 5-9 pm!*

Holiday Variety is the theme at **The River Gallery**. This artist-run gallery hosts twenty-five artists working in all media from paintings to woodturning, pottery, jewelry, glass art and photography. In addition to the exquisite offerings of fine art, the gallery will be featuring gift items for December. These include smaller art, handcrafted wine stoppers, jewelry, unique ornaments, and notecards. Guest musician John Farmer will provide music while Landry's Vineyard will serve wine, and gallery members will provide great refreshments. This gallery is the oldest and largest co-op gallery in the state and is located at 308 Trenton Street, West Monroe.

Staying in West Monroe, the Crawler can visit new Downtown Arts Alliance member **Hamilton House Gallery** (318 Trenton Street), which will host self-taught artist John Ramage Adams with his show “CTRL+ART+DELETE.” Adams’ medium is mixed media on canvas, using an amalgamation of found Internet images combined with his own photography and paintings. Adams is from Winnsboro, having studied art history at LSU. He’s worked at such institutions

as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, NY, and has been involved with the international "Massurrealism" movement since 2007. He has "a keen interest in the blurring of artistic boundaries with new technology."

Another new Antique Alley gallery is **Sacred Expressions**, 314 Trenton, West Monroe, where owner Lori A. Brown will be exhibiting her own work including various media. She is a licensed counselor and art therapist, using art as a method of helping others.



Moving to Monroe's Art Alley, the Crawler will find **MAD Art Gallery**, where the featured artist is Doug Duffey. Best known as a singer/songwriter, pianist, and international recording and concert artist (inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame and the National Blues Hall of Fame) he is also known as a serious, multi-genre visual artist using collage, drawing, painting, photography, mixed media, digital drawings, digital collage, digital scans and video. His artwork has been exhibited in galleries and museums in Louisiana and Europe in one-man and group shows. He is a member of the 10/20/40 Art Group (along with: Lynda Benglis, Enoch Doyle Jeter, and Sarah Davidson). A native of Louisiana and a long-time resident of New Orleans/Monroe, he has resided and worked in both Louisiana and Europe for the past twenty years. "In my drawings, I am heavily influenced by my Louisiana culture, heritage, traditions, everyday life and scenery," he explains. Also on display and for sale is "Azalea Blossoms" by Juanita Cochran. Proceeds are for the benefit of local non-profit ARCO. In the foyer will be Cynthia Cloud with her iCyndi Creations, while inside the gallery Gray Matter will provide live music.

The **Sugar Gallery**, also on Art Alley, is back in December with a fresh new look and new art by its stable of diverse artists. The gallery has gotten an amazing revamp by its own William Holley, with new paint and lots of beautiful touches. Holley will also have new ceramic pieces; Stacy Medaries will have new mixed media pieces that always delight; Melanie Douthit will have rich, colorful mixed-media pieces; Mary Thompson will have her beautiful photorealistic landscapes; Leah Reitzell will be debuting some new colorful, constructed bayou pieces; and Burg Ransom will have some wonderful wildlife photography on the walls. Add some music, food and drink, and the Sugar is sure to please!